

Santa Rosa Symphony

2023
2024
SEASON

NEWS

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Kahane Returns! Beloved Maestro Conducts Beethoven & Shostakovich

Revel in the return of Conductor Emeritus Jeffrey Kahane as he conducts and performs Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4.

February 17, 18 & 19, 2024, Weill Hall, Green Music Center

(Santa Rosa, Cali.) — Santa Rosa Symphony (SRS). Excitement reigns for the return of Conductor Emeritus Jeffrey Kahane on his first visit back to Green Music Center since 2019. He will conduct and perform on Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4, considered by many to be one of the pinnacles of the piano concerto repertoire. Shostakovich's magnificent Symphony No. 1 showcases a multitude of musicians and instruments in this fiery and momentous work. *Primal Message*, by American composer Nokuthula Ngwenyama, is an exciting musical reverie for harp, celesta, percussion, and strings that will delight the senses. Performances are February 17, 18 & 19, 2024, at Weill Hall, Green Music Center.

"I am delighted to welcome back our Conductor Emeritus, Jeffrey Kahane, to perform Beethoven's masterful fourth piano concerto and conduct Shostakovich's brilliant first symphony. Having assisted Jeffrey early in my career, I have always been in awe of his exceptional interpretations of the Beethoven concerti, and it will be a special delight to have him leading the Shostakovich which is such a wild showcase for the musicians that I often call it Shostakovich's "Concerto for Orchestra". *Francesco Lecce-Chong*, Music Director

Program at a glance:

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN: Concerto No. 4 in G major for Piano and Orchestra

NOKUTHULA NGWENYAMA: *Primal Message* for Orchestra

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH: Symphony No. 1 in F minor

BIOGRAPHY: Jeffrey Kahane, Conductor Emeritus

Equally at home at the piano or on the podium, Jeffrey Kahane is recognized worldwide for his mastery of a diverse repertoire ranging from Bach and Mozart to the music of our time. Kahane has appeared as a soloist with major orchestras such as the New York Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Chicago and San Francisco Symphonies among many others, and is also a popular artist at major US summer festivals, including Aspen, Blossom, Caramoor, Mostly Mozart, and Ravinia. In August 2016, he was appointed Music Director of the Sarasota Music Festival and was the orchestra's Artistic Advisor for two seasons.

Since making his Carnegie Hall debut in 1983, he has given recitals in many of the nation's major music centers including New York, Chicago, Boston, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. A highly respected chamber musician, Kahane collaborates with many of today's most important chamber ensembles and was the Artistic Director of the Green Music Center's Chamberfest during the summers of 2015 and 2016.

Kahane made his conducting debut at the Oregon Bach Festival in 1988. Since then, he has guest-conducted many of the major U.S orchestras including the New York and Los Angeles Philharmonics, Philadelphia and Cleveland Orchestras, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, and the Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis, Baltimore, Indianapolis, and New World symphonies, among others. In May 2017 Kahane completed his 20th and final season as Music Director of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. He also served as the Music Director of the Colorado Symphony from the 2005/06 season through the 2009/10 season and for ten seasons was Music Director of the Santa Rosa Symphony, where he is now Conductor Emeritus. He has received much recognition for his innovative programming and commitment to education and community involvement with all three orchestras and received SCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming for his work in both Los Angeles and Denver.

During his highly successful tenure with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, he spearheaded the creation of many new initiatives, including Westside Connections, a chamber music series that brings together LACO musicians and guest artists with speakers from a wide range of disciplines; Baroque Conversations, which presents chamber and orchestral music of the 17th and 18th centuries with spoken program notes and audience Q and A; “Discover” concerts, evenings devoted to the exploration of a single work involving an hour-long lecture with the orchestra on stage, followed by a complete performance; and Sound Investment, a commissioning club whereby for a modest investment, LACO patrons can participate in the commissioning of major new works and interact with the composer from the very first stages of its conception to the performance. Between this program and the regular commissioning of new pieces, over 50 works were given their premieres by LACO during Kahane’s tenure. He is now the orchestra’s Conductor Laureate.

Kahane resides in Los Angeles with his wife, Martha, a clinical psychologist in private practice. They have two children - Gabriel, a composer, pianist, and singer/songwriter; and Annie, a dancer and poet.

CONCERT ENHANCEMENTS:

[Concert Program books:](#) Available at all Classical concerts. Also available to view online.

[Concert Program notes:](#) These can be read on the concert event page

Pre-concert talk: Conductor Emeritus, Jeffrey Kahane provides a 30-minute pre-concert talk one hour prior to the performance.

SPONSORS: We gratefully acknowledge the generous contributions from the following:

Classical Concert Series underwritten by **Anderman Family Foundation**

Sponsored by **The Peggy Anne Covington Fund**

Conductor Emeritus Jeffrey Kahane, Conductor and Piano sponsored by **Jack Dupre and Marsha Vas Dupre, and Carly Dierkhising - Del Castro**

Discovery Open Rehearsal Series sponsored by **The Stare Foundation and David Stare of Dry Creek Vineyard**

Pre-Concert Talks sponsored by **Jamei Haswell, in honor of Richard Grundy**

Season Media Sponsor: *The Press Democrat*

High-res photos available upon request: Conductor Emeritus, Jeffrey Kahane

Interview Opportunities: Conductor Emeritus, Jeffrey Kahane

AT A GLANCE / CALENDAR LISTING:

WHAT:

[Santa Rosa Symphony “Kahane Returns!”](#)

WHO: [Santa Rosa Symphony](#), Conductor Emeritus Jeffrey Kahane, conductor

WHEN:

Saturday, February 17, 2024 at 2:00 pm – Discovery Open Rehearsal, no talk

Saturday, February 17, 2024 at 7:30 pm (Doors at 6:00 pm, Pre-concert talk 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm)

Sunday, February 18, 2024 at 3:00 pm (Doors at 1:30 pm, Pre-concert talk 2:00 pm - 2:30 pm)

Monday, February 19, 2024 at 7:30 pm (Doors at 6:00 pm, Pre-concert talk 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm)

WHERE: Weill Hall, Green Music Center, Sonoma State University

TICKET PRICES:

\$18 / adult; \$10 / youth (7-17 years of age) for Discovery Open Rehearsal

\$32-\$105 for Classical Series performances

Youths 7-17 years of age may receive one complimentary ticket with every paid adult. Request tickets through Patron Services at (707) 546-8742. Classical Series concerts only

\$10 student rush tickets for college students with a valid student ID. Available at the door only

TICKETS: srsymphony.org or (707) 546-8742 (Weekdays 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, opening at 10:30 am Wednesday closed Saturday & Sunday)

ABOUT SANTA ROSA SYMPHONY

Santa Rosa Symphony, the Resident Orchestra of the Green Music Center, is the third-oldest professional orchestra in California, and the largest regional symphony north of Los Angeles. Francesco Lecce-Chong, the Symphony's fifth music director in its 96 years, began his tenure in 2018. J. Andrew Bradford joined SRS as President and CEO in 2023. The Symphony is committed to the core values of artistic excellence, innovative programming, comprehensive music education, and community service.

The Symphony's performance schedule includes 21 Classical Series concerts (seven sets), seven Discovery Dress Rehearsal concerts, a three-concert Family Series a four-concert Pops Series, and special concerts.

Awards include an American Symphony Orchestra League MetLife Award for Community Engagement and a first-place award for adventurous programming in the 2012-2013 season from the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers.

The Symphony is recognized as having one of California's most comprehensive music education programs, serving nearly 20,000 youths annually. Collaborations with schools and organizations across Sonoma County have gained the Santa Rosa Symphony national attention and support.

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